

# JONES ROAD (HARRIS COUNTY) TEXAS

EPA ID# TXN000605460



## EPA REGION 6 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 7

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Updated: October 9, 2012

### Background

The Jones Road Ground Water Plume site is located in the northwest portion of Harris County, Texas.

The source of Site contamination is the former Bell Dry Cleaners facility, which was located within the Cypress Shopping Center at 11600 Jones Road, approximately one-half mile north of the intersection of Jones Road and FM 1960, outside the city limits of northwest Houston, Texas. The Cypress Shopping Center was constructed in 1984, and the former Bell facility began dry cleaning operations sometime in 1988. The former Bell facility continued operating through May 2002 when the dry cleaning operations were shut down. The hazardous substances present at the Site include tetrachloroethylene, also known as perchloroethylene (PCE), and related breakdown products, trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,2-dichloroethylene (DCE), and vinyl chloride (VC).



The area around the Site is characterized by residential, commercial, and light industrial development. Residential development has been active since the 1960s effectively eliminating wildlife habitat from the area. Jones Road is the principal north-south corridor through the area, and FM 1960 (approximately one-half mile to the south) provides a southwest-northeast corridor. Commercial development is dominant along Jones Road with residential and limited commercial development along the side streets. Cypress Creek is located approximately one mile to the northwest of the subject area, and White Oak Bayou is located approximately 3,500 feet to the south.



The EPA conducted a time-critical removal action that included the installation of a water line and connections to homes and businesses at the Site. Construction of the water line began in January 2008 and was completed in November 2008. A total of 144 service connections were completed. The waterline is serviced by the White Oak Bend Municipal Utility District.

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the Site was signed on September 23, 2010 and sets forth the selected remedy for the Site. The Selected Remedy as described in the ROD is In-Situ Enhancements to Pump and Treat. The in-situ treatments involve treating the soil and groundwater without removing them. A pilot study will be conducted to determine which in-situ treatments will be most effective and appropriate for the source area soil and

groundwater, and the deep groundwater plume. The treatment technologies to be evaluated in the pilot study will likely include in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) for source area soil and shallow groundwater, and bioaugmentation for the deep groundwater plume.

## Current Status

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EPA selected a final cleanup approach for the site which was documented in the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD was signed by EPA on September 23, 2010. EPA began working on the design to implement the remedy selected in the ROD in March 2011.

The EPA received funding to plug and abandon the water wells of customers who were connected to the water line installed by EPA in 2008. Plugging and abandonment of the water wells began on October 27, 2011 and was completed on November 17, 2011.

Based on the information included in the Remedial Investigation, Risk Assessment and Feasibility Study, EPA drafted a Proposed Plan of Action for the site. The Proposed Plan presented EPA's preferred remediation approach for the site. The public was invited to comment on the Proposed Plan during a public comment period that began on May 25, 2010, and ended on June 23, 2010. A formal public meeting to discuss the preferred remedial approach was held on June 3, 2010.

Installation of the waterline along with residential and commercial service connections was completed on November 26, 2008. A total of 144 service connections were completed. The waterline is currently active for usage and has been conveyed for operation to the local municipal utility district of White Oak Bend.

## Benefits

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Providing an alternate drinking water source to the community is an integral strategy to protect human health as well as conduct future remediation and restoration of the Chicot aquifer. Continuous use of private water wells may inhibit the effectiveness of aquifer restoration.

## National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

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NPL Inclusion Proposal Date: April 30, 2003  
NPL Inclusion Final Date: September 29, 2003  
HRS Score: 46.5

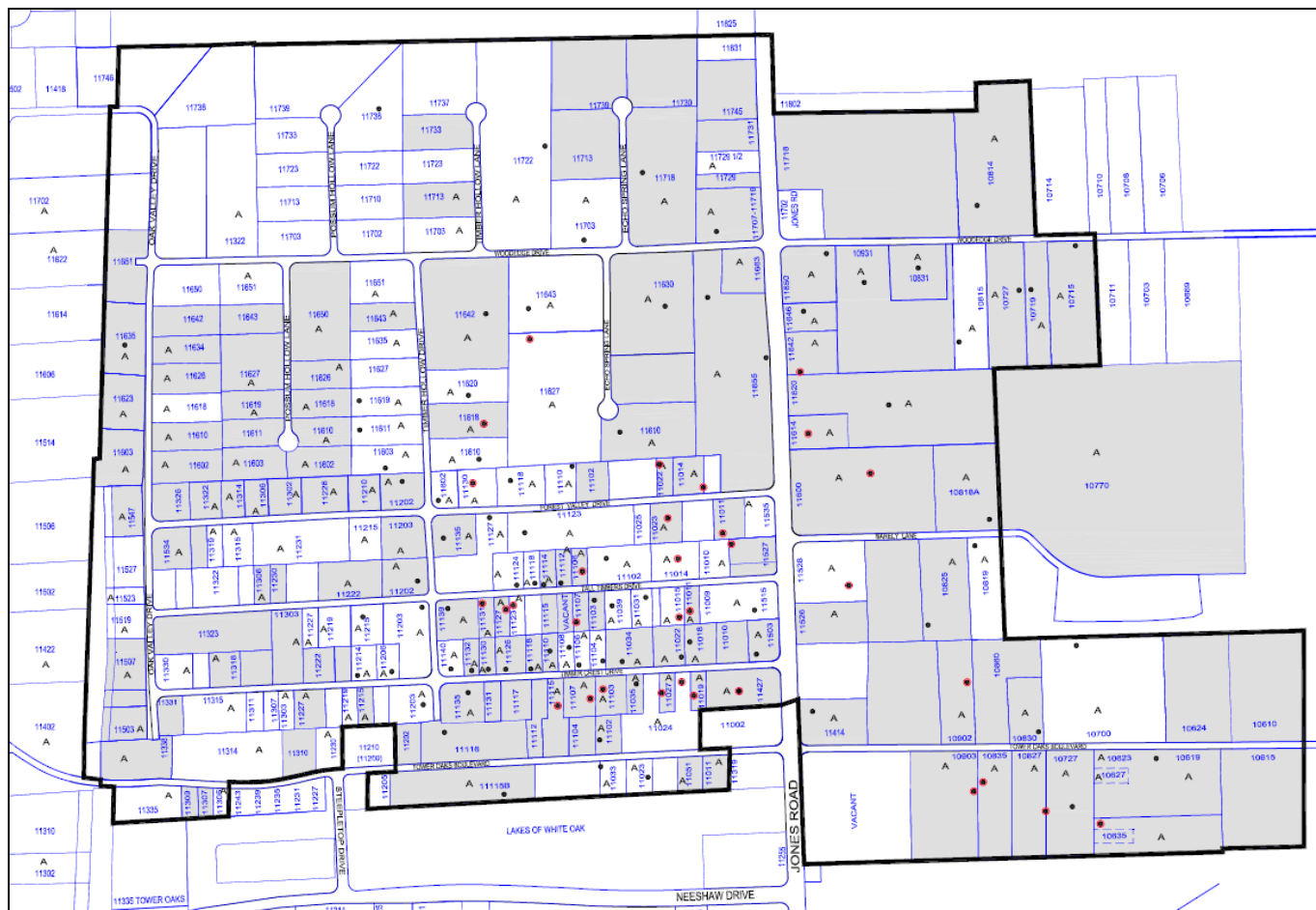
**Location:** The Site is located approximately one-half mile north of the intersection of Jones Road and FM 1960, outside the city limits of northwest Houston, Texas.

**Population:** The Site is primarily contained in census tract 5524, with some overlap into tract 5525. The zip codes for the area are 77065 (west of Jones Road) and 77070 (east of Jones Road). Based on the most current demographics (2007 census), Harris County has a population of approximately 3.94 million people and has a land area of 1,729 square miles.

**Setting:** The area around the Site is characterized by residential, commercial, and light industrial development. Residential development has been active since the 1960s effectively eliminating wildlife habitat from the area. Jones Road is the principal north-south corridor through the area, and FM 1960 (approximately one-half mile to the south) provides a southwest-northeast corridor. Commercial development is dominant along Jones Road with residential and limited commercial development along the side streets.

## Site Map

This map illustrates the service area for the waterline as outlined in the heavy black line.



## Wastes and Volumes

The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PCE under the Safe Drinking Water Act is 5 ppb. The TCEQ conducted the Remedial Investigation to define the nature and extent of contamination in the Chicot aquifer. The Chicot aquifer supplies drinking water to thousands of private water supply wells northwest of Houston in Harris County. The land above the plume is not affected by the contamination and remains an active residential neighborhood and commercial district with restaurants and retail shops.

## Health Considerations

Installation of the waterline along with residential and commercial service connections was completed in November 2008. A total of 144 service connections were done.

## Record of Decision (ROD)

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EPA signed the Record of Decision on September 23, 2010

The ROD sets forth the selected remedy for the Site, which involves actions to address PCE contamination in soil and ground water. The selected remedy is a comprehensive approach for the Site and addresses all current and potential future risks caused by groundwater contamination.

- The major components of this remedy are:
- In-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) of soil and shallow groundwater in the source area to destroy source area contaminants.
- Bioaugmentation of hot spots within the deeper zones of groundwater to both destroy contaminants and enhance natural attenuation of contaminants.
- Pumping groundwater from the subsurface in both the source area (less than 50 feet bgs) and the deeper groundwater zones at high enough rates to prevent further migration of contaminants in groundwater.

## Community Involvement

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Proposed Plan: Issued May 25, 2010

Public Meeting: June 3, 2010

Information Repository: Northwest Branch Harris County Library  
11355 Regency Green Drive  
Cypress TX 77429  
Phone: 281/890-2665

### Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 5/15/03
- Letters of Intent (LOI): 6/18/03
- LOI News paper Notice: Week of 7/27/03, Houston Chronicle zoned edition;
- TAG awarded 4/20/04 to Jones Road Coalition for Safe Drinking Water, Gloria G. Selby, (281) 890-3765.

## Site Contacts

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TCEQ Project Manager:	Subhash Pal	512-239-4513
TCEQ Community Involvement Coordinator	John Flores	512-239-5674
EPA Superfund Region 6 Toll Free Number:		1-800-533-3508
TCEQ Superfund Toll Free Number:		1-800-633-9363